

# EMBERS FROM MY FIRE

September 2006 - By Pastor Ken Damon

## GET READY JESUS IS COMING BACK!

How do we know Jesus is going to return to earth as Lord and Conqueror? Because He said so!

Jesus said, **“At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.”** Matthew 24:30-31

There is no need to “demythologize” this passage. There is no need to try to come up with a clever interpretation to explain it away because this is not an event which is scientifically provable. We also cannot scientifically prove the resurrection of Jesus. We believe it by faith because it has the ring of ultimate truth to it. We truly believe that Jesus is the one great necessity for human life.

I know the Second Coming of Christ is hard to believe because we have never seen anything remotely like this happen in our world since the first century. The Church has always believed in the return of the Lord as one of its core beliefs. In a very real sense everything is coming full circle. As God once walked on earth in the Garden of Eden, so Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is going to walk again on this planet as the ruler of the world.

Angels even testify to the place of the return of Jesus. The location is on the eastern slope of the Mount of Olives between Jerusalem and Bethany.

**“After He (Jesus) said this, He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ‘Men of Galilee,’ they said, ‘why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.’”** Acts 1:9-11

Obviously the Bible teaches that the return of Christ is a real coming event.

According to Jesus the one big problem we face as far as His return is our not being prepared because the wait is so long (Matthew 24:48). We also have the problem that plenty of people have “cried wolf” so many times that we have been anesthetized to the reality of the urgency of the Second Coming.

When I was a teenager I believed that Jesus was going to return by 1988 because Hal Lindsey said that Jesus would return within one generation of the birth of the nation of Israel (Matthew 24:32-34). Obviously Hal Lindsey was wrong!

Jesus says that not even the angels or the Son Himself knows the day or hour of the return (Matthew 24:36). The focus for believers is to be ready for the return of Jesus by daily obeying the Lord by living lives of love, moral purity, and faithful witness to the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ. See Matthew 24:36 through 25:46.

Jesus may return in fifty minutes or He may return in fifty years. What is important is that we remain patient, loving, and faithful in a world that will become increasingly wicked (Matthew 24:12). **“This calls for patient endurance on the part of the saints who obey God’s commandments and remain faithful to Jesus.”** Revelation 14:12

*Pastor Ken*